

Town of Tremont

Annual Report

2004

**Images have been omitted from this pdf document
to minimize file size and download time.**

NOTICE

To the Citizens of Tremont, Maine:

The records of the town are kept at the Town Office
Residents may examine these records by calling the Town Office
During business hours, Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00

To the Taxpayers of Tremont, Maine:

All taxpayers should read and comply with the following provisions of the law on
Tax assessments;

Title 36, Chapter 105 and 706, M.S.R.A., 1981

Before making an assessment, the assessor may give reasonable notice in writing to persons liable to taxation in the municipality to furnish to the assessor true and perfect list of all their estates, not by law exempt from taxation, of which they were possessed on the first day of April of the same year. The notice to owners may be by mail directed to the last known address of the taxpayers or by any other method that provides reasonable notice to the taxpayer.

If notice is given by mail and the taxpayer does not furnish the list, he is barred of his right to make an application to the assessor or any appeal therefrom for any abatement of his taxes, unless he furnishes the list with his application and satisfies the assessor that he was unable to furnish at the time appointed.

TOWN OF TREMONT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings are held at the Tremont Community Center at time indicated unless otherwise posted. Call the Town Office for more information.

Board of Selectmen	1 st and 3 rd Monday, 6:00PM
Planning Board	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday, 6:00PM

Please bring your copy of the Town report to Town Meeting. Upon arrival, please check in with the Registrar of Voters to receive your voting card.

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AL PRICE

The Town of Tremont is pleased to dedicate the 2004 Annual Town Report to Alison "Al" Price.

Al was born March 30, 1941 in Bryn Mahr, PA. Al and his wife of 24 years, Suanne had an extended family of eight children.

Al spent most of his life around the ocean. After moving to Tremont he became very involved with the Town. He was elected to the Board of Selectmen in 1989 and completed his term in 1998. He served on other various committees and boards throughout Tremont. In 2001 he became Harbor Master and left his position in 2004. Al was a great asset to the Town and the community as a whole. He was very active in building the Tremont Wharf and was always able to lend a hand to the local fisherman.

Al was a great friend to many and was loved by everyone. He will be sadly missed.

PAUL R. HINTON

Paul Hinton passed away on June 29, 2004. He is survived by many friends of whom he was proud to claim. He recognized and appreciated these friends and they of him for he was a very good and trusting person. Paul graduated from Pemetic High School in 1946. He received a BA degree from Colby College in 1950 and a master's degree in English from the University of Maine in 1970, a master's degree in library science from the University of Maine in 1973. In 1973 he accepted a teaching position at Mount Desert Island High School as Librarian and he remained there until he retired in 1991. Over the years Paul remained dedicated to the Bass Harbor Memorial Library and served as director of the Board of Trustees. He was a great mentor to the library. He owned and operated the Little Red Store in Bernard, where he sold antiques and collectibles. He was also a successful caterer. Mr. Hinton was an active member of the Mt. Desert Lions Club, the Harbor House Bon Appetit Club and served as president of the Maine Educational Media Association. Mr. Hinton was very active in his community, as he served on many boards and committees throughout his life. He was a devoted pet owner and was very fond of his birds and animals, especially his squirrels. Paul will be very much missed.

ADMINISTRATIVE TOWN OFFICIALS

Millard Billings

Millard Billings

McKenzie Clough

Heidi Farley

Debbie Nickerson

Jimmy Schlaefter

Christopher Stanley

Bruce MacQuiad

Elisa Friel-Mosenteen

Janet Patton

Terri Lanpher

Bradley Reed

Keith Higgins

Town Manager

Treasurer

Tax Collector

GA Administrator

Road Commissioner

CEO

Licensed Plumbing Inspector

Town Clerk

Deputy Tax Collector

Depute Treasurer

Deputy Clerk

Bookkeeper

Public Works

Public Works

Harbor Master

Animal Control Officer

Registrar of Voters

Health Officer

Fire Chief

Emergency Management Director

TREMONT OFFICERS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Alden Gray-Chairman	2005
Scott Grierson	2006
Charlie Dillon	2007
Steve Harper	2006
Dean Tozier	2005

PLANNING BOARD

Wayne Patton	2006
Jim Keene	2006
Linda Graham	2007
George Urbanneck-Chairman	2007
Galen Warman	2007
Heath Higgins	2007
Mike Ryan	2005

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Herbert Shaw-Chairman	2005
Mary Harkins	2005
Susan Dombrosk	2007
Elizabeth Erickson	2007
Allyson Reed	2006

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES

Doug Gott	2006
Glendon Stanley	2005
Jim Geary	2007

WARRANT COMMITTEE

Sherry Harkins	2007
Eric White	2005
Frank Gray-Chairman	2008
Heath Higgins	2007
Linda Graham	2005
Galen Warman	2005
Steve Carter	2006

BOARD OF APPEALS

Marcia Maderia	2008
Joanne Harris-Chairman	2008
Phillip Worden	2005
Melvin Atherton	2006
Mark Mosenteen	2007

TREMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY

Harold Cummings	2006
Doris Reed	2007
Ben Harper	2007
Francis Martin	2006

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Rose Pinchetti	2005
Virginia Libhart	2007
Wayne Libhart	2007
Frank Gray	2008
Jim Keene	2005
Dean Tozier	2007

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Scott Harper	2005
John Buckwalter	2005
George Urbanneck	
Frank Gray-Chairman	2006
Elliott Spiker	2004
Beth Gott	2006

POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

McKenzie Clough	2004
Scott Grierson	2004
Christina Butler	2004
Diane Miller-Chairman	2004
Bob Martin	2004

TREMONT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Doug Gott	2006
Eric White	2006
Charlie Dillon-Chairman	2007
Scott Harper	2007
Ben Harper	2007
Galen Warman	2006
Steve Harper	2006

RECREATION BOARD

Heidi Farley	2008
David Campbell	2005
Carroll Lunt	2006
Brian Devisme-Chairman	2006
Beth Lawson	2007
Jennie Gray	2007
Andy McMullan	2006

TREMONT LAND USE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Galen Warman-Chairman	2004
Scott Grierson	2004
Art Paine	2005
Gus Young	

HARBOR COMMITTEE

Stuart Murphy -Chairman	2007
Haywood May	2007
Melvin Atherton	2007
Scott Harper	2005
Diane Miller	2005
Everett Beers	2005
Northwood Kenway	

BASS HARBOR MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Harvey Kelley	2005
Ruth Grierson	2005
Rose Pinchetti	2005
Lester Radcliffe	2006
Elaine Eaton	2006
Art Paine	2007
Alice Ann Tracey	2007
Rosemary Tilden	2006
Carey Donovan	2007
Linda Musson	2005
Alice Chedister	2007
Marilyn Miller	2007
Lorena Beal	2007

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE

Patty Tierney	2006
Frances Martin	2006
Lisa Jacobs	2005
Philip Worden	2005
John Clark	2005
Fay Lawson	2006
Ellen Church	2007
Eric White	2007
James Geary	2005

SEAL COVE RAMP COMMITTEE

Diane Miller	2007
Heidi Farley	2005
Miles McIntire	2007
Sherman Stanley	2007
McKenzie Clough	2005
Steve Harper	2007



Senator Dennis S. Damon
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1515

256 Oak Point Road
Trenton, ME 04605
(207) 667-9629

Winter 2005

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

It is an honor to represent you, the citizens of Tremont, in Augusta as your State Senator. These next two years of the 122nd Legislative Session are off to a fast start, and I would like to take this opportunity to share with you all some of the key issues facing us this session.

The most critical issue facing the Legislature this session is the matter of tax reform, and it is our goal to produce meaningful tax relief for the people of Maine. Immediately following our swearing-in on December 1st, a special committee was formed to address this issue, and I am honored to have been appointed as chair of the Joint Select Committee on Tax Reform. We began working without delay on the Governor's tax reform plan, and the proposal will be before the entire legislature in the coming months. I am working closely with my colleagues to help produce a new tax structure that relieves the property tax burden on the people of our area.

Similar to years past, we will be facing a budget shortfall this session. The projected shortfall, approximately \$730 million, will have to be addressed in the coming budget. It is crucial that while attending to this budget gap, we do not forget the programs that are critical to the people of Maine. I intend to work in union with my fellow legislators to ensure that the budget constraints are dealt with in a manner that will least jeopardize the services Mainers have come to depend upon.

In addition to my appointment as chair of the Tax Reform Committee, I now have two other chairmanships. I will be returning as Senate Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources – a subject matter that is very near and dear to me, and many of you. Additionally, I have been appointed chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, where I was previously a member. Both committees address key areas of importance to your town and the people of Maine. I am looking forward to helping those committees accomplish great things this coming session.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of the above issues, or anything else you would like to bring to my attention, please do not hesitate to contact me at the State House toll free at 1-800-423-6900 or 287-1515.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis S. Damon".

Senator Dennis S. Damon
Senate District #28

Fax (207) 287-1585 * TTY (207) 287-1583 * Message Service 1-800-423-6900 * Web Site: <http://www.state.me.us/legis/senate>
email: dsdamon@panax.com



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

Hannah Pingree

92 Mills Street
North Haven, ME 04853
Residence: (207) 867-0966
Business: (207) 691-5071
E-Mail: hannah@pingree.com

Message to the Citizens of Tremont

Dear Neighbors,

It is an honor to represent you in Augusta. This past year has been a busy and challenging one but I am glad to be writing to share some good news about our progress.

After years of talking and debating and several consecutive ballot questions, the legislature took bold steps to advance real property tax relief for Maine homeowners through the passage of LD 1. With bipartisan support, this bill delivers relief to every Maine homeowner and most importantly, will help Maine people afford to stay in their homes.

There are four highlights of the relief plan including 1) increased state school funding for all communities in 2005-2006; 2) a complete overhaul of the Maine Homeowners and Renters Property Tax Rebate Program (also known as the circuit breaker program) which includes a major expansion of who is eligible for rebates, and a doubling of the maximum rebate for those most in need; 3) an increase in the local homestead exemption to \$13,000; and 4) new spending caps at all levels of Maine government.

I am also very pleased to report that we stand poised to pass several key initiatives to help preserve and protect working shorefront land for commercial fishing uses. These items include current use taxation for the working waterfront, a working land bond targeted to help groups purchase working waterfront properties, and a "Fisheries for the Future" pilot program to help small fishing industry start-up businesses.

As the newly appointed House Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, I will spend much of the next two years working to ensure the Dirigo Health program is an affordable choice for Maine's small businesses and families who need insurance coverage, while also focusing on cheaper access to prescription drugs and making Maine a healthier state. There are other issues I will continue to focus on, from making sure higher education is affordable, funding Maine's small schools, improving our state's small businesses environment and ensuring a clean environment.

My job in Augusta is to represent you, so I hope you feel free to contact me and share your opinions and suggestions with me anytime. I send out an email newsletter, if you would like to be added to that list, send me an email at hannah@pingree.com. You can also find more information at my website: www.pingree.com or you may reach me by phone at 867-0966.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your representative. I remain committed to working with state and local governments to assure vibrant futures for our island and coastal communities. Keep in touch!

Sincerely,

Hannah Pingree
State Representative

District 36 Brooklin, Deer Isle, Frenchboro, Isle au Haut, part of Mount Desert, North Haven,
Stonington, Swan's Island, Tremont and Vinalhaven

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

This has been a very busy year for the Town Office. The Clerk's office is open Monday-Friday 9-5, you can contact us by phone at 244-7204, Fax 244-0758 or by email at mckenzie02@adelphia.net.

Please remember that all dog licenses expire January 31st of each year. And late fees begin February 1st. We begin licensing for the upcoming year in October. When renewing your dog's license please bring proof that your dog has had rabies shots.

40 dogs were turned over to the Animal Control Officer, of the 40 dogs 23 were collected by the ACO and 19 were collected at the Clerk's office. 3 remaining dog owners were turned over to the Town's Attorney for collection. Remember the State of Maine charges a late fee of \$25.00 per dog, late fees can add up very quickly.

The Town of Tremont welcomed 16 new babies this year, 7 baby girls and 9 baby boys.

Michaela Daigle
Cedar Ellis
Liam Hollis
Chloe Bolt
Ava Lawson
Connor McKee
Moses Allen
Katie Soukup

Scott Murphy
Li ana Young
Henning Reinholdt
Maia Wilkinson
Joshua Reed
Luke Horner
Nolan McIntire
Keagan White



The following residents passed away this year, they will be sadly missed.

Doctor Rachmaninov
Jane Boschert
Walter Campbell
Harris Southard
Rolla Thompson
Elvira Banfill
John Dunbar
Juanita Leighton
Paul Hinton

Fred Rumill
Clayton Black
Robert Kelly
Lenore Closson
Jean Hill
Alfred Dow
Brenda Gard
Lawrence Dodge
Alison Price

Don't forget that all hunting and fishing licenses expire December 31st. The State of Maine encourages you to read your license carefully before purchasing your license. Have a safe and happy new year.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

It is with great pleasure I offer this Town Report the citizens of Tremont. The past year has been busy as usual and very rewarding. I continue to enjoy my tenure as your Town Manager and this I believe is due to a very supportive Board of Selectmen, excellent staff and involved citizens. I am pleased to have been offered the opportunity to enter into a contract with the Town of Tremont for an additional three years. This will give adequate time to follow through with some important projects and achieve other goals.

Police protection has been in the forefront of many discussions recently. Sadly we lost our Resident Trooper in September. It has been very difficult for all to have no regular police protection. We are seriously looking into every possible option for the townspeople and gathering as much information as possible. I spoke in Augusta along with Hannah Pingree on two bills concerning the State Police. LD 102 is a bill to allow the State Police to contract part time police protection and could benefit Tremont. LD 534 is a bill to end the Resident Trooper Program and we spoke in opposition to this bill. The committee eventually voted in support of our positions on both bills. Ms. Pingree has worked very hard in supporting the needs of the Town of Tremont.

Most recently I attended a very positive meeting with our County Commissioners concerning police protection. Faye Lawson is very dedicated to serving the Town of Tremont in her capacity of County Commissioner. Tremont is very fortunate to have so many people, who truly care, working in the Town's best interest. Being without a police force creates challenges but many times out of such challenges comes a great solution.

Elliott Spiker has been a volunteer extraordinaire the past year. He has added the Town's tax maps and property value data base to the web site (www.tremontme.gov). Recent history shows over 500 people visit the site each month. Elliott donates his knowledge and time to create and maintain the web site for all to enjoy. Elliott has also spent many hours over the past year preparing for the final phases of E - 911. He and I have spent many hours on this and I am pleased to announce that we have received our final maps from the State. We are in the process of creating a data base with new addresses, referenced to existing addresses, which will be submitted to the Post Office for their approval. Many thanks to Elliott for all he has done and his dedication to the good of the Town.

We have completed the third phase of the Kelleytown Road Project. Culverts were replaced and the surface was reclaimed and resurfaced. The Public Works crew worked on cutting roadside brush, ditching and replacing culverts during the summer. We plan to work on the Mitchell Road and the Leighton Road in the coming year.

This past winter Jimmy Schlaefter and new crew member Chris Stanley renovated the Wharf House. The Wharf House has been rented to a local family. The Wharf Garage has also been rented to a local business offering marine repair services. The Town will soon be able to see a return on the investment in the Wharf House and Garage. A job well done Jimmy and Chris!

The highlight of this year was Heidi's return to work, healthy and feeling well. She was indeed missed in the office as well as in the community for the few months she was out.

A huge welcome back to Heidi. Debi Nickerson joined us as bookkeeper in August. With her experience in bookkeeping and her extensive computer knowledge she has proven to be a quick study with the Trio system. Bruce Macquaid acclimated to the position of Harbor Master very quickly. Along with other duties he has built a new finger float which will go out this season. He has a big job and assumes the responsibility necessary to do it well. Our new Animal Control Officer Elisa Friel-Mosenteen has been busy, not only with the usual calls about dogs and cats, but calls about horses and pot bellied pigs as well as ducks. Tremont is fortunate to have such a competent person willing to do such a thankless job for the Town.

There is one other employee who I feel deserves a paragraph of her own this year and that is Town Clerk McKenzie Clough. Her dedication to the Town has been beyond expectations. She has worked short staffed for several months this past year and has always been willing to do whatever it took to help the office run smoothly with no complaints. She has been an immense help to me over the past year and her professional manner in the office helps to create a pleasant as well efficient work environment. She continues to reach out and learn about the role of Town Clerks in the State of Maine. McKenzie is truly an asset to the citizens of Tremont.

In early April Wayne Libhart, Frank Gray and I traveled to Augusta to speak before the State and Local Government Committee on LD 1029. The bill, introduced by Hannah Pingree at the request of the Tremont Selectmen and Cemetery Committee, is for municipalities to acquire title to abandoned cemeteries. Three members of the Maine Old Cemetery Association spoke in favor of the bill. A representative of Maine Municipal Association and a representative of the American Legion also spoke in favor of the bill. The committee put the bill on the fast track and voted that the bill ought to have passage. I am pleased that Tremont could lead the rest of the state in this important endeavor.

Recently the office got some much needed upgrades in computers and equipment. We have finally been able to go to a Windows based Trio system! Until this spring the office had been running on an outdated Dos system. We still have a couple obsolete computers which we use for word processing.

A special thank you to each and every one of the Tremont citizens who donate their time and expertise to your community, whether it is volunteering at Hoop Fest or serving on various boards and committees. The community is what it is because of the dedication of each of you.

Sincerely,
Millard Billings
Town Manager

BUDGET REQUEST AND COMPARISON

	2002 Actual	2003 Actual	2004 Actual	2005 Budget	2005 1-Apr	2006 Proposed
ADMINISTRATION						
WAGES	185,964.00	203,175.00	219,231.00	230,739.00	160,237.00	238,635.00
BENEFITS	59,624.00	78,414.00	92,262.00	108,687.00	67,997.00	121,645.00
OFFICE OPERATIONS	45,838.00	66,936.00	46,921.00	65,000.00	50,126.00	57,800.00
TOTALS	291,426.00	348,525.00	358,414.00	404,426.00	278,360.00	418,080.00
INSURANCES	8,407.00	9,701.00	12,522.00	18,539.00	13,227.00	19,200.00
PROTECTION	39,685.00	40,115.00	32,937.00	46,500.00	26,137.00	47,000.00
LAW ENFORCEMENT	27,515.00	29,532.00	104,196.00	91,092.00	8,515.00	100,000.00
DEBT SERVICE	40,513.00	23,869.00	75,615.00	78,615.00	78,613.00	78,615.00
REC. BOARD	-1,234.00	3,608.00	8,454.00	3,500.00	1,017.00	4,000.00
HARBOR HOUSE	5,000.00	20,780.00	22,361.00	10,117.00	10,117.00	10,000.00
LIBRARY	6,969.00	3,124.00	19,557.00	23,650.00	17,299.00	24,600.00
COMM. BLDNG	15,928.00	17,306.00	15,836.00	20,263.00	15,121.00	21,840.00
PUBLIC WORKS						
MUNICIPAL GARAGE	0.00	96,140.00	20,140.00	10,000.00	963.00	10,000.00
SUMMER ROADS	26,281.00	42,048.00	94,555.00	100,000.00	32,881.00	100,000.00
WINTER ROADS	67,768.00	65,006.00	94,701.00	93,000.00	104,526.00	93,500.00
TOWN EQUIPMENT	10,216.00	24,557.00		7,000.00	5,834.00	7,000.00
TOWN FLOATS	17,986.00	-2,278.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
MAINT. & REPAIR	1,113.00	389.00		2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
SEPTIC SLUDGE	-1,000.00	0.00		1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
STREET LIGHTS	9,390.00	8,870.00	10,052.00	10,500.00	7,523.00	12,800.00
CEMETERIES	2,229.00	1,168.00	1,091.00	6,000.00	550.00	6,000.00
GENERAL ASSISTANCE	555.00	739.00		6,000.00	515.00	6,000.00
BOARD EXPENSE						
PLANNING	2,921.00	5,384.00	3,960.00	8,250.00	3,750.00	8,500.00
APPEALS	419.00	42.00	717.00	1,500.00	168.00	1,500.00
SEAL COVE FISHWAY	130.00	13.96	12.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
SEAL COVE RAMP OP					501.00	1,200.00
AMBULANCE	26,424.00	26,424.00	27,217.00	28,034.00	18,690.00	28,034.00
D. E. HORIZONS	1,500.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.00
D. E. TRANSPORT.	297.00	297.00	297.00	297.00	297.00	297.00
YESTERDAY'S CHILD.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
MEMORIAL FLAGS		375.00	175.00	375.00	0.00	375.00
WHCA COM AGENCY	0.00	0.00	0.00	511.00	511.00	598.00
COMP PLAN COM.		150.00	0.00		0.00	5,321.00
E9-11	11.00	8,808.00	4.00		0.00	192.00
HIST. SOCIETY	1,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
D. E. HEALTH	500.00	0.00	500.00	1,110.00	1,110.00	1,170.00
RED CROSS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	1,529.00
ISLAND TRANSPORT	3,105.00	3,105.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,105.00
HOSPICE	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	150.00
ISLAND CONNECTION	500.00	500.00	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
B.H. FOOD PANTRY	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
SOLID WASTE						
E.M.R. INC.	85,502.00	75,203.00	85,245.00	94,200.00	67,480.00	94,200.00
PERC	56,404.00	57,488.00	63,246.00	58,400.00	42,214.00	58,400.00
MERC	1,183.00	1,199.00	1,304.00	1,400.00	1,189.00	1,400.00
ADD	0.00	0.00	2,901.00	2,808.00	1,911.00	2,821.00
SOLID WASTE COMM.	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	817.00	2,500.00
MISC.	1,228.00	870.00	335.00	1,500.00	728.00	1,500.00
CONTINGENCY	2,058.00	0.00	1,280.00	12,500.00	5,220.00	12,500.00
COUNTY TAX	121,432.00	126,889.00	154,576.00	160,368.00	160,368.00	220,460.00
RESERVES						
COMM. BLDNG	0.00	10,000.00	22,000.00	22,000.00	0.00	22,000.00
TOWN TRUCK	4,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
SEAL COVE	5,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,112.00	1,000.00
TOWN WHARF	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
BLACK PROP.	1,000.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
TN. EQUIP. RES.	1,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00		3,000.00
MUNICIPAL BLDNG		0.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00
FIRE DEPT GRANT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,240.00
				1,447,105.00		1,548,177.00

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/ PLUMBING INSPECTOR

No building or structure or part thereof shall be erected, constructed, expanded, moved, or altered to change the use without first obtaining a permit. No lot shall be divided as to make a substandard lot. Three or more unregistered vehicles stored in a yard or field requires a permit for an automobile graveyard. These have been the three major areas of permit violations this year.

During the calendar year 2004 I have issued 113 Building Permits, these permits created \$10,938.07 in municipal revenue.

During the calendar year 2004 I have issued 79 Plumbing Permits, the Town's portion was \$4,116.75.

My office hours are 9-5 Monday through Friday. If you have any questions please call me at 244-7204. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Millard Billings, CEO/ LPI

2003 ASSESSOR'S REPORT

2004-2005 Valuation	362,508,400.00
2003-2004 Valuation	344,244,000.00
Gain in Value	18,264,400.00

2004-2005 Valuation

Land & Buildings	\$361,280,700.00
Personal Property	1,227,700.00
Total Taxable Valuation	362,508,400.00
Mill Rate	0.00920
Total Taxable Valuation multiplied by Mill Rate	3,335,077.28

Assessments:

County Tax	160,368.00
Municipal Appropriation	1,330,035.00
School Appropriation	2,519,083.00
Overlay	39,142.08
Total Assessments:	4,048,628.08

Deductions:

State Revenue Sharing	97,682.00
Homestead Reimbursement	19,609.80
Other Revenue	596,259.00
Total Deductions:	713,550.80
Total Assessment	4,048,628.08
Total Deductions	713,550.80
Net Assessment	3,335,077.28

Increases:

	2004-2005	2003-2004
County Tax	160,368.00	154,575.91
Municipal Appropriation	1,330,035.00	1,242,518.00
School Tremont Elem.	1,876,901.00	1,703,028.00
School MDIHS	642,182.00	611,894.00
Overlay	39,142.08	33,296.99
	4,048,628.08	3,745,312.90

Assessor's Report

April First is the day property taxes are assessed every year. Property is assessed to the owner of record and new construction projects are assessed by the percent of completion on April 1st annually. The tax maps are updated as of April first. Applications for tax exemption (Veterans Exemption, Homestead Exemption, Blind Exemption, Tree Growth, and Open Space) must be filed with the assessor on or before April 1st, applications are available at the assessor's office.

New construction and limited adjustments in the valuation model increased the total valuation by \$18,264,400.00. The 2004 mill rate is \$9.20 dollars per dollars of valuation.

The Assessing department will begin the annual field review of twenty five percent of the community in 2005. This project will assure that values and necessary adjustments are based on reasonably accurate information.

Your patience over the past several challenging years has been and is appreciated.

Office hours are 9-5 Monday through Friday. If you have any questions please call me at 244-7204. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Geaghan CMA CG311
Assessor

FIVE YEAR VALUATION COMPARISONS

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
State Valuation	381,900,000	248,350,000	231,450,000	185,824,388	180,850,000
Increase	133,550,000	16,900,00	4,974,388	11,850,000	8,100,000
% of increase	53.80%	6.8%	2.68%	6.55%	4.79%
Town Valuation	362,508,400	344,930,600	171,687,500	163,600,800	157,746,900
Increase	17,577,800	172,566,500	8,086,700	5,853,900	3,636,100
% of increase	5.1%	50%	4.71%	3.58%	1.90%
Net Assessment	3,375,078	2,960,498.40	2,678,325	2,568,532	2,247,893
Increase/decrease	374,579.88	282,173.40	109,793	320,639	-377,916.20
% of change	12.65%	9.5%	4.10%	12.48%	-(16.81%)

2005 UNPAID TAXES

Alley, Wendy	1431.52	Nelson, James	1575.96
Bear Beach LLC	8953.44	Oxley, Linda	672.52
Black, Stanley	1664.28	Packard, David Estate of	392.87
Bright, Anne	575.00	Patton, Wayne	841.80
Bright, Anne	946.68	Pelletier, William	2325.76
Bright, Anne	41.40	Power, Robert	717.60
Bright, Anne	3930.24	Power, Robert Sr.	842.72
Brooks, Ernest	959.56	Price, Alison	1803.20
Butler, Carroll	1.28	Richardson, Christopher	1012.92
Cockcroft, Denise	901.12	Robbins, Elizabeth	467.70
Connolly, Susan	930.12	Schlaefel, David	1318.36
Connolly, Susan	121.56	Schlaefel, David	2005.60
Coombs, Michael	262.88	Seavey, Maurice	1261.32
Daigle, Robert	1514.32	Smith, Shirley	645.84
Daugherty, Freda	1337.68	Smith, Wendy	1783.88
Farley, Donn	657.80	Stanley, Glendon	1051.56
Gekas, Sharon	1504.20	Swann, Scott	760.92
Graham, Linda	482.08	Thurston, Kay	115.00
Gray, Alden	734.16	Tozier, Dean	175.72
Gray, Frank Jr.	1262.24	York, Joanne	3476.76
Harkins, James	345.00		
Harkins, Jason	57.96		
Haper, Clyde Jr.	1214.40		
Harper, Steven	1389.20		
Herrick, Elizabeth	272.20		
Higgins, Richard	277.87		
Hodgdon, Benjamin	226.87		
Hodgdon, Mark	2323.92		
Hodgdon, Ralph Jr.	1.65		
Hooper, Rosemary	862.07		
Jacobs, Danny	210.68		
Kearns, Lorie	557.52		
Kelley, Ellwood	1020.28		
Lawson, David	2426.96		
Lizzotte, Susan	2886.96		
Mayer, Dorothy	273.97		
Murphy, Donald	40.48		
Murphy, Eldora	245.64		
Murphy, Eldora	621.92		
Murphy, Eldora	37.72		
Murphy, Eldora	992.68		
Murphy, Eldora	39.56		
Murphy, Eldora	1745.24		
Kinter, Kristin	265.88		

2004 UNPAID TAXES

Daugherty, Freda	246.28
Gekas, Sharon	1498.02
Graham, Linda	445.03
Harper, Clyde Jr.	910.12
Harper, Steve	1224.14
Higgins, Richard	296.35
Jacobs, Danny	242.78
Lizzotte, Susan	2130.32
Murphy, Donald	97.43
Murphy, Eldora	268.06
Murphy, Eldora	472.93
Murphy, Eldora	74.86
Murphy, Eldora	76.66
Oxley, Linda	704.45
Patton, Wayne	853.98
Pelletier, William	2038.09
Reed, Ralph	1175.91
Seavey, Maurice	1241.28
Smith, Shirley	659.88
Smith, Wendy	527.28
Stanley, Glendon	452.40
Thurston, Kay	150.69

TREMONT PLANNING BOARD

During the year the Tremont Planning Board issued 22 permits

The task of updating and implementing the present ordinance is the task of the planning Board and the Zoning Ordinance Board. These boards are presenting one new or revised ordinance for vote at the Public Meeting. Ordinance revisions are a continuing effort to help manage the future growth of Tremont to everyone's best interests. Our ordinances are not meant to restrict landowners from using property; rather they exist to assure that the use of the property will attain the standards set forth in the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

The Planning Board will continue to review the Subdivision Ordinance in 2005 and address and revisions or additions as needed.

The Planning Board meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's of each month at 6:00pm and the Zoning Ordinance Board meets are required. These meetings are open to the public and agendas are posted at the Town Office. Everyone is welcome and all are encouraged to voice their opinions, concerns, and suggestions regarding the Zoning Ordinance.

Respectfully submitted
George Urbanneck-Chairman

TREMONT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

During the past year the CIP Committee has been preparing the new Town Office site. Blasted grout was removed and placed in the low land north of the Town Garage. Top soil has been removed from the upper and lower parking lots. A new site for the septic has been located, and plans for the new building are being finalized.

TREMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Town of Tremont Housing Authority provided housing for twenty- two (22) elderly and disabled families during 2004. All units are occupied and there is a waiting list of individuals desiring to become tenants. The Tremont Housing Authority assisted twenty-nine (29) families with their rent and utilities in the amount of \$133,034.57. This reduces the number of families that would normally be requesting assistance from the town.

Payment in lieu of taxes for 2004 \$2,517.36

The Tremont Housing Authority is very appreciative of the support received from the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Public Works Department in helping us care for the senior members of our community.

The Board of Commissioners meets on the third Thursday of the month on a regular basis. The meetings are handicap accessible and the public is welcome to attend. It is a good idea to call the office at 288-4770 to confirm the date and time as it is subject to change. Our office is located at 80 Mount Desert Street in Bar Harbor, ME. The office is open from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. We can be reached at 207-288-4770 or via e-mail terry.kelley@emdiha.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Harold Cummings, Chairman
Town of Tremont Housing Authority

TREMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Tremont Historical Society had a busy season in 2004. Our visitors to the museum increased to 295, or one third more than the previous year of 2003. We think the brochure that we had printed in the spring contributed to this increase.

We would like to thank the men and women who volunteer their time to keep the doors open. Without them there would not be a museum in Tremont.

The 5th grade from Tremont Consolidated School under the direction of teachers Terry Stanley and Tammy Lunt, made a visit to the museum in October. It was a pleasure to show them around and tell them a few things about the operation of the museum. We hope the 5th graders this year will also visit us.

Our rummage sale in July was a success and we are planning another this summer. The acquisitions have been coming in steadily and some have their history in the William Underwood Factory.

The museum will open 1:00pm to 4:00pm Wednesday and Saturday starting June 22, 2005. Research is by reservation.

Historical Society meetings are held at the Bass Harbor Memorial Library in Bernard on the 4th Monday of each month, except in December. The public is invited to attend these meetings at 7:00pm to hear some very interesting speakers.

Many thanks to the citizens of Tremont and to the Town officials for their help and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Arlene M. Bartlett-President

E-911 COMMITTEE

The ongoing project to establish street addresses for all residents and business in Tremont is making progress. Computerized maps showing all the new road names, addresses and exact location of houses and business has been reviewed and revised twice. At the request of the State, the Town office has recently completed a list of all the new street addresses cross-referenced to the mailing addresses. After the State and the Post Office approve the maps, the Town will notify residents of their new street address.

Special thanks go to Committee members, past and present, for their hard work and dedication. Fire and emergency crews will be able to use the new maps to more quickly find our loved ones.

TREMONT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire Department responded to the following calls in 2004

- 1 Life Flight
- 2 Power Lines
- 2 Chimney fires
- 3 false alarms
- 7 car accident/car fires
- 1 Grass fire
- 4 Reports of smoke
- 1 Unattended fire

Thankfully, there were no structure fires!

The Fire Department now has all the equipment installed in the two fire stations that was purchased through federal grants. The new vacuum tanker is here and available for use too.

The Department next need is to enlarge the size of the Seal Cove Sub Station. The 1976 stub nose engine is the only truck that will fit in the station at this time. We are in the process of obtaining more land from the neighbor behind the station, through some labor swapping.

We will also have to make decisions at the Bass Harbor Station. We need to make room for the tanker, which is now being kept at the town garage. We are looking into the possibility of lifting the top floor up. That would make it possible to have taller trucks now and in the future.

The Fire Department would again like to express our thanks to everyone for your continued support, to help us better assist and protect our town. Anyone who is interested our business meeting is the first Wednesday of the month and our training in the last Wednesday of the month. We can always use more volunteers.

Please remember that **ALL** fires outdoors of any kind, other than for cooking purposes **MUST** have a written burning permit in hand at all times.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley A. Reed, Fire Chief
Mark Mosenteen, Asst Chief

2003 End Balance \$10,658.30

Income

Interest	\$35.13
Donations - Emergency Equipment Fund	\$2,224.33
Donations - Canteen Crew	\$458.00
Donations - General	\$8,064.86
*Grant	\$53,190.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$63,972.32

Expenses

Emergency Equipment	\$55,414.33
BHS&L CD	\$6,000.00
Building Maintenance	\$174.33
Vehicle Maintenance	\$5.00
Education Training	\$115.44
Christmas for Kids	\$125.00
Misc. Supplies Uniforms	\$5,677.70
Tax Dues	\$88.00
Canteen Crew	\$557.59
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$68,157.39

2004 End Balance \$6,473.23

CD was created August 26, 2004 for the Fire Department in the amount of \$6,000.00
 CD was created January 20, 2005 for Emergency Equipment in the amount of \$1,230.00

Submitted by Eric M. White, Treasurer

*We would like to thank the town for supporting the Fire Department.
 We would also like to thank members of the department and other town individuals
 for help writing the grant that allowed us to get equipment at a 10% discount.*

*** Grant Money**

Grant FG0307507FFS001	9,899.00
Grant FG0307507FFS002	485.00
Grant FG0307507FFS003	39,780.00
Grant FG0307507FFS004	662.00
Grant FG0307507FFS005	1,946.00
Grant FG0307507FFS006	418.00
Totals	\$53,190.00

BASS HARBOR MEMORIAL LIBRARY

This year has seen continued growth in the programs offered by the Bass Harbor Memorial Library. It was also a year of sadness due to the death of Paul Hinton this past summer. Paul was a Library Trustees for over 35 years and has been Chair of the Trustees from the late 1960's to 2001. He was the libraries guiding light for many years, so we are very much indebted to him and the library we have today

Sharon Bradford continues as Librarian supported by an active group of Trustees. The library continues to reach out to young and children and their families, offering story hours for young children, and offering a Summer Theater Camp that provides an exciting arts-orientated program for 2 weeks (3 mornings a week) in the summer. Last summer 26 children participated in the program. Our guest artists were the Frogtown Puppeteers and art teacher and painter, Judy Taylor.

We have also worked on expanding our services to adults in the community. We have continued to add to our fiction and non-fiction collections for adults. Recently, the library has been very pleased to host four Astronomy Slide Lectures offered by Island Astronomy. We are also currently hosting a weekly knitting circle. We offered a series of free computer classes for adults who wanted to learn basic computer skills. The library offers low-cost photo copying (10 cents a page), and has two computers with Internet access available to the public. In addition to books, the library also subscribes to a number of popular magazines and has an audio and video collection. All materials circulate for two weeks.

The library is open Tuesday and Thursday from 1-5, Wednesday and Saturdays from 10-2, and on Tuesday evenings 6-8 during the summer months. The library building is also used by other community groups such as the Tremont Historical Society. Please contact the library or one of its Trustees if you would like to inquire about the use of the facility. Also, please let us know if you would like to volunteer at the library in any capacity.

We had a successful book fair last August. We would like to thank all who donated raffle prizes, baked for the food table, donated White Elephant items and books, or who helped out on the day of the sale. This year the Library Sale will be held Saturday, August 13. Books may be donated at any time, but please hold onto White Elephant items until the last week of July when Theater Camp will be through.

Respectfully submitted,
Carey Donovan-Chairman Bass Harbor Library Trustees

SEAL COVE RAMP COMMITTEE

The picnic area has been improved thanks to the help from the Town Public Works Department. The Ramp Committee has replaced several trees. Alan Parsons planted two spruce trees near the rock wall to buffer noise from the road, and a tall white oak for shade was planted on the point. We hope that you all get a chance to enjoy the area this summer.

POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Tremont Police Advisory Committee was put together as part of the State Police contracts. Tremont's resident Trooper left his position in August to return working at the Hancock County Sheriff's Department. His position in Tremont has yet to be filled, due to the shortage of State Troopers.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Your Cemetery Committee has been fairly active this past year. We visited most of the cemeteries in the Town. That is, those we could find. Although most of them are well cared for, we found many are in very poor condition, almost deplorable. Virginia Libhart took photos of all that we visited, so that she could make a record. I am sure that she will share them with any that might be interested.

Members of the Committee assisted with the transfer of funds from the corporation of the four cemeteries they controlled, to the Town. The Town of Tremont now has control of the Bass Harbor Cemetery, The Head of the Harbor Cemetery, The Rich Cemetery (near Bernard Corner), and the Hill Rest Cemetery.

A member of the Committee prepared a draft of a bill, that we asked the Selectmen to present to our representatives in the Maine State Legislature. This they did, and it is now in the hands of Representative Pingree and Senator Damon. This bill will allow Maine towns, to acquire any cemeteries in their towns that become abandoned. We believe that there are about twenty cemeteries in Tremont that will fit the definition of "Abandoned" as defined in the proposed draft bill.

The Town delivered gravel and Mr. Libhart, with his heavy equipment, has made the road to Gott's Hill Cemetery passable. Although this cemetery needs much more work this has been a great improvement.

We are working to identify the Trust Funds that the Town holds for specific cemetery lots, and where those lots are, and if, and how, those Trust Funds can be used for the upkeep of our cemeteries. If any of you have information on these Trust Funds please share it with your committee. We need your help

TREMONT SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

There has been a lot of activity with the solid waste volunteers at the temporary parking lot on the corner of the Marsh Road and Route 102. We began brainstorming ideas last year. This year our ideas were put into motion. Our committee set out to show the residents of Tremont the importance of recycling paper and magazines. Our committee sent a very expensive mailing to all our residents informing them we would be offering a trial recycling project. We offered residents the opportunity to drop off their paper and magazines the last Saturday of June, July and August. We surprised even our own committee at the tonnage that was collected on Saturday mornings. We were so successful we decided to continue on into the New Year. With the help of town officials and the Tremont Board of Selectmen we exceeded our own expectations. Through January over 45 tons of papers have been recycled at Eastern Maine Recycling in Southwest Harbor. Add another ten tons our residents brought to the parking lot on Saturdays. The proof is there! The potential is there to save on our solid waste budget. The town is still obligated by contract to EMR, but the end of that contract is getting closer. The Tremont Solid Waste thanks the supporters, committee members and the Town Office for their cooperation.

TREMONT RECREATION BOARD

The Tremont Recreation Board has had two very successful and productive years. With the generous volunteers and donations from the community we have installed a new hardwood floor in the gym that everyone is very proud of. We also have covered the beams and put in new bleachers. The Rec. Board will be starting the nature trail at new Garage lot. The new community events sign was completed this year and has become a wonderful asset to our community. We are always looking for ideas to make this event better than the last, if you have a suggestion please contact a Rec. Board member. Another new project for the Recreation Board is to offer scholarships every spring to children who would like to attend summer camps. Applications are available at the Tremont Town Office, be sure to stop by and pick one up. Thank you again to all our volunteers and fundraisers; with your continued support we will continue to improve our community.

SOUTHWEST HARBOR/TREMONT NURSING SERVICE INC.

I wish to first thank the towns of Southwest Harbor and Tremont for this opportunity to report on the activities of your ambulance service, operated by the Southwest Harbor/Tremont Nursing Service Inc.

Our organization is a non-profit 501(c) (3) corporation and a descendant of the local Ladies Aid organization which began during World War I to roll bandages for the War effort. The Nursing Service then evolved into an entity for support of the Town Nurse in the two communities who rendered home health care and provided loans of health care equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, and even hospital-type beds. In the 1960s, the Service obtained its first ambulance (ironically, a retired hearse). Those were the “bag and drag” days when any medical care en route to the hospitals in Bar Harbor and Ellsworth was minimal.

The Service has come a long way from then until now. Gone are the days of the Town Nurse. Gone are the days of loaning used home health equipment due to the legal liability. Presently our primary 2001 ambulance, in service since 2002, is based in Southwest Harbor along with an on-duty EMT around the clock to provide the fastest response possible to emergencies. Our previous primary 1994 ambulance is in the Bass Harbor Fire Station and is used for emergency calls if our primary unit is already out on a run.

Our attendants are the core of our operations and the heart of patient care we provide. The Service is blessed with special individuals like Tom Smith, the first recipient of our George Clarke Memorial Award for exemplary service to our organization and operations. Tom has been an Ambulance Driver for several years and served as President of the Service from May 2003 to June 2004. EMT-Basic and Volunteer Firefighter Tom Blyth was recognized in 2004 by Maine EMS and Governor Baldacci for his outstanding leadership at a mass casualty boating accident in July 2003. Other exceptional individuals are Drivers Jim Keene, Elliott Spiker, Tony Goslin, and Jason Blocker; EMT-Basics Susan Clarke and Bob Stanwood, EMT-Intermediate Jenny Sheriff; EMT-Paramedics Pat and David Buccello, Dave Dostie, Dwayne Pinnette, Phil Hamm, Tom Goehringer, and John Lennon. EMT- Paramedic Bruce Washburn provided outstanding care to our patients for many years before moving to New Mexico in late 2004. All of these individuals deserve our continued esteem for their outstanding character and care for patients.

The Service has always appreciated the generosity of taxpayers in the two towns for their annual financial support. I would like to take a moment to explain the necessity of this tax support to our continued operations. Plainly, if the Southwest Harbor/Tremont Nursing Service received full payment for all our ambulance calls, we would not need the financial support of local taxpayers. 80% of our ambulance calls involve Medicare and Maine Care (formerly Medicaid). Currently Medicare reimburses 65% of the amount that we bill. In many cases, secondary insurance covers the remainder of these bills. Maine Care, however, remits only 24% of the amount that we bill. In addition, patient services that we bill to Maine Care are strictly controlled and the reimbursements have not increased in 16 years. As I write, the Maine Legislature’s Appropriation Committee chose not to include in the proposed state budget a request from the Maine Ambulance Association for an increase to Maine Care reimbursements that would total 1.8 million, but *did* include a 6% wage increase for State employees that totals \$40 million! An

increase in Maine Care reimbursements would contribute to reducing our dependency on local taxpayers who are deserving of some relief.

The Service receives financial support from annual appeal donations, memorial donations and bequests, as well as interest and dividends from our investments that are our endowment. Our investments are approximately \$450,000- \$140,000 is reserved for a new ambulance, \$21,000 for a new heart monitor, and \$30,000 for unforeseen emergency expenses.

You have our assurance that the Service is working as hard as possible to remain ready with the quickest possible response of care in the medical emergencies of our year-round and seasonal residents and visitors. Membership in the Southwest Harbor/Tremont Nursing Service Inc. is open to both year-round and seasonal residents of the two towns at \$3 per year by writing to PO Box 437 Southwest Harbor ME 04679. We welcome any new members as advocates for strong emergency medical resources in our communities that we love so much.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL NURSE 2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR

The school health program, supervised by the school nurse, consists of hearing, vision, scoliosis and growth screening and making appropriate referrals. The nurse arranges necessary physical exams, consults with parents and health professionals when health problems arise, provides first aid, screens for health problems, and assists in the basic health and wellness related issues. The nurse serves as a member of the Crisis Team, the Wellness Team, Communities for Children, and is available to the SAT, and PET Teams as needed.

This year the school health services were contracted through the Mount Desert Island Hospital to provide services five days a week for thirty hours a week. Terri Lanpher RN is the Tremont School Nurse.

Services provided fall of 2004

Vision Screening: 103 screened, 2 referred.

Hearing Screening: 103 screened, 2 referred

Illnesses/Accident Requiring Treatment:

September 164

October 120

November 99

December 101

January '05 134 thru Jan. 21st.

Total 608

TREMONT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to you, the members of the Tremont Community. A lot has happened at the Tremont Consolidated School over the past year. I would like to cite some of the noteworthy performances by individual. Axl Wallingford was a guest conductor for the Bangor Symphony Orchestra when the school attended one of its performances. Lily and Macy Horton were selected to perform in the Bangor Public Theatre's version of the Nutcracker with a Russian Ballet troupe. Cassie Minctons maintained a high honors average all three trimesters while earning athletic awards in soccer, basketball, and softball. There were group accomplishments as well. Golf and drama programs were piloted for the first time at Tremont School. Wanda Whitener's Jazz band earned high scores at the District 6 Festival enabling them to attend the State Jazz competition. Most importantly perhaps is the fact that on the math portion of the Maine Educational Assessments, Tremont's fourth grade class performed higher than the average of the other Island Schools. They also significantly exceeded the State average in the test.

This past year saw a large change in staff members. Ms. Emmy Renault replaced David Gray who resigned. Mrs. Sarah Dunbar assumed the role of Title One teacher vacated by Mrs. Jane Monahan who took a position in Bar Harbor. Mrs. Cherie Willard was hired to teach third grade, a vacancy that was caused by several voluntary transfers within existing staff members. Mr. Gihooley, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Lunt, Mrs. Benicio and Mrs. Pratt were all hired as educational technicians. Most of the people replaced others that resigned while one position was added to meet special education needs.

We promoted eighteen eight grade students to the high school in June 2004. Meanwhile, kindergarten registration for the 2004-2005 school year provided the school with a much larger than expected kindergarten enrollment. Therefore, the class was divided into two groups. From September 1st to January 1st we held two half day sessions, both taught by Mrs. Miller. Beginning in January, both groups attended school for a full day program. This was essential for the school to meet the ever increasing levels of accountability being placed upon the No Child Left Behind Legislation. As a result, Ms. Vandidestine-Farrar was hired to teach the additional kindergarten class. The monies to fund her position were taken from federal funds for rural schools.

This year saw many improvements to the school building by the maintenance crew. Over the summer all the hallways and nearly all the classrooms were painted. The maintenance/custodial crew also assumed the role of performing preventative maintenance for the heating system. This saved the school nearly \$3000.00 in work that was previously contracted to a company in Bangor.

During the past year I worked with a group of parents and staff members to set goals for the Tremont School Community. The goals we established were:

1. To improve students' performance levels on the local assessments as well as the Maine Educational Assessments;
2. To create a school culture wherein teachers, parents and community members establish a climate where students feel safe, respected and challenged to achieve their personal best academically, emotionally and physically.

The teachers used results from the Northwest Evaluation association (NWEA) to set individual and class growth goals. Our unofficial mid-year progress checks show that we are making great then expected levels of growth.

The teachers, parents and community members have conducted many activities designed to change the culture of the school. We have done several whole school activities. Some were light hearted such as our pep rally and others were serious, like raising over \$1500.00 to provide relief for Tsunami victims. A new sense of school pride has emerged.

I would like to conclude this report by thanking the teachers for all the countless hours they provide. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the staff and the town office as well as the town work crew for working together as we share building space. The Tremont School Fund Committee also deserves thanks for the financial support they have given to provide learning opportunities for our children. The members of the school board also deserve an immense amount of gratitude for all the time they spend working for the benefit of Tremont's students. Finally I would like to thank parents and community members for the obvious support provided to the school over the past year.

This report is respectfully submitted by Principal Peter Campbell.

WILLIAM SEARLS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

This represents the 53rd anniversary of the William Searls Foundation. William Searls died in a tragic automobile accident on December 23, 1951. In the spring of 1952 the William Searls Scholarship Foundation was started by Sims Davis, Lawrence S. Robinson and Thomas Searls Jr. The fund started with \$2,620.00 and high hopes of helping a Pemetic High School graduates to continue their education as a fitting tribute to the memory of William Searls. When MDI High School was constructed the scholarship was amended to require a student from Pemetic or Tremont Consolidated School as well as MDI High School.

Through generous support of our friends and neighbors as well as the principal growth of investments, the foundation has a current balance of approximately \$400,000.00. We have helped more than 480 students with awards in excess of \$395,000.00.

Gifts in memory of loved ones continue to be a major supports of our growth. Please remember us with donations of your loved ones for the benefit o educating out young. We thank your contributions both great and small.

TREMONT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

Superintendent of Schools	Robert Liebow
Curriculum Coordinator	Joanne Harriman
Special Services	Kelley Sanborn
Principal	Peter Campbell
School Secretary	Susan McIsaac
Bookkeeper/Secretary	Elaine Eaton
Kindergarten	Marilyn Miller
	Callie Farrar
Grade 1	Susan Hodgdon
Grade 2	Patricia Minnier
Grade 3	Cheri Willard
Grade 4	Candy Herrick
Grade 5	Terry Stanley
Grade 6	Crystal Dow
Grades 7-8	Jeanne Nagorniuk
	James Sawyer
French Teachers	Sara Grant
	Terese Miller
Librarian	Tammy Crossman-Turner
Resource Room	Liz Robbins
	Tamera Coffman
Classroom Aides	Louise Kinney
	Terri Riemens
	Tina Lawson
Special Education Aides	Becky Hopkins
	Lorena Beal
	Amy Benicio
	Zachary Gilhooley
Computer Coordinator	Max Crain
Speech/Language Clinician	Libby Nelson
Guidance	Carey Donovan
Music	Wanda Whitener
Art	Sandra Irwin
Physical Education	Emmy Renault
Kitchen Staff	Cookie Baldwin
	Jaylene Sanborn
Bus Drivers	Linda Parson
	Nancy Elvin
Custodians	TJ Paulos
	Brian Devisme
	Anne Lee

Dear Parents and Friends

January 2005

We are very pleased to report on the many positive educational developments over the last year in School Union 98. Our professional teaching staff continues to provide high quality learning environments for all of our young people. Your continued support of our schools is vital to our success and we value our open lines of communication.

This school year we have hired 24 new teachers all of whom bring a strong sense of dedication and a high level of enthusiasm to our school union. These teachers have had the added benefit of increased support and mentoring from Paige Collins, the new Teacher Leader for Union 98. In addition, four new administrators have joined us. Joanne Harriman has assumed the position of Director of Curriculum and Staff Development, Sally Leighton takes on the leadership role as Principal at Mount Desert Island High School, Peter Campbell has become the full-time principal at the Tremont Consolidated School and Phyllis Walder has taken on the responsibility as Principal at the Swans Island School. We look forward to the strong leadership each of these individuals will be bringing to their schools.

The major focus of our work this school year has been on the implementation of a local assessment system in all of our schools. This new system of common assessments will allow us to meet the new State of Maine requirement to certify that our students have met the standards of the Maine Learning Results. In addition, we have made it a priority to ensure that our new Union 98 curriculum is being implemented at the classroom level. This process has required a tremendous amount of time and effort on behalf of the Director of Curriculum and Staff Development, school administrators and our entire teaching staff.

This year's senior class at the high school will be the first class to graduate with the dual requirement of earning 23 course credits and successfully demonstrating, through a cumulative portfolio of common assessments, that they have met the standards of the Maine Learning Results. This pioneer group of young people is working very hard to achieve this goal and have earned our respect and admiration for their positive approach to this new system of accountability.

We are also placing an expanded emphasis this year on the supervision and evaluation of the teaching staff in all of our schools. More frequent classroom observations by administrators of the teaching and learning process and the follow-up dialogue on improving instructional practice will serve to further strengthen the learning environment for the children we serve.

This year we have expanded the one-to-one laptop program to the high school level through the efforts and financial support of the Mount Desert Island Educational Enhancement Fund (MDIEEF) and several local anonymous donors. This fall all the teachers at the high school received laptops and this January the entire freshman class will be provided with a personal machine. Research on the laptop program in the middle schools has shown an increase in writing skills, expanded access to research materials and an increase in overall student motivation, especially for our at-risk students. It is our hope that the State Department of Education will continue to support this program which would allow us to expand this initiative to all of our students in upcoming years.

We have now developed a working template for our Gifted and Talented programs. Next year each school will have the services of a coordinator who will develop and implement appropriate programming in this area. In addition, teachers continue to receive training and support for differentiating their instruction in the classroom in order to reach more students through their unique learning styles.

Our school facilities continue to receive much needed upgrades and the benefits of regular maintenance. The Mount Desert Elementary School project is finally nearing completion and the new heating system at the Bar Harbor school has dramatically improved heat distribution and air quality.

We appreciate the trust you have placed in us to oversee the educational growth and development of our young people. We are committed to providing the highest quality of education to all of our students.

Robert Liebow,
Superintendent
of Schools

Joanne Harriman,
Director of Curriculum
and Staff Development

Kelly Sanborn,
Director of Special
Services

Printed copies of the following documents, to be inserted here, are available in the Town Office:

- **Tremont School Audit**
- **Town Audit**